

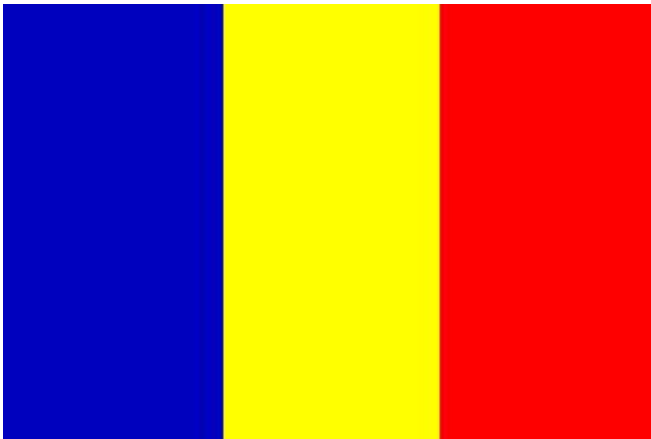


Published on *Istituto Comprensivo Monterotondo Via B. Buozzi 18* (<https://www.istitutobuozzimonterotondo.edu.it>)

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## **MONTEROTONDO**





**THE LOCATION**



Monterotondo is located in the centre of Lazio in central Italy, 30 km far

from Rome and it is divided into:

- Upper Monterotondo
- Monterotondo Scalo

Monterotondo is characterized by hills that do not exceed the altitude of 150 mt, with vineyards and olive groves.

Monterotondo is crossed by Tevere river. The weather is mild in the winter and in the summer.

In Monterotondo there are lots of shops and facilities, for example:

- a few post offices;
- some supermarkets;
- some bakeries;
- a few restaurants;
- the library.

Now we are going to visit the Dome, Orsini Palace, the arch of San Rocco and Piazza dei Leoni and then we'll talk about some typical celebrations and recipes of Monterotondo.

## **THE MONUMENTS**

### **The Dome**



In 1621 the “Council of the 40” decided to build a new church in Monterotondo. This had to replace the old small church built five centuries before. The Barberini family was obliged to accept the decision of the Council and to satisfy them. The Barberinis put a cross on the place where the church was built in 1630. Since they had to develop the walls of the town, they didn’t have enough money to decorate the front of the church, this is the reason why the dome has a poor front.

In 1641 pope Urbano VIII visited the dome to which he gave a few holy clothes and a very big bell.

In 1845 the new pope Gregorio XVI named the church “Minor Basilica”.

Inside the church, on the vault, there is a big picture of the Virgin painted by Domenico Pistrini. Moreover, there is a particularly beautiful wooden statue of the Virgin Mary with her Child. The altar has an ancient sarcophagus dating back to the II century A.D.



Orsini Palace





Designed by the Roman architect

Frontoni in 1722, it was part of the wall that closed the town. It is the last of the four doors leading to the centre of the town. This door is a national monument: it was called “porta romana” before 1870, it was named “porta Garibaldi” after the conquest by Garibaldi. In order to enter the town, coming from the Tiber valley, Garibaldi had to burn the door that closed the access to the centre of the town.

On the top of the door there are two flags, the Italian flag and the European flag.

Garibaldi: Giuseppe Garibaldi (Nice, July 1807 – Caprera, June 1882) was a general and a patriot. He is one of the most celebrated Italian characters, famous all over the world, and he is also a national hero.





Fontana dei Leoni





Piazza dei Leoni is the heart of ancient

Monterotondo. It was originally called “piazza del Popolo”. Later the square was called “piazza dei Leoni” because in the centre there is a fountain with the sculptures of four lions. Lots of shops open on the square, as well as a restaurant, a coffee bar and a bookshop. Next to “piazza dei Leoni” there is a building where Garibaldi talked to people.

## **Via Cavour**



Via Cavour is an important street in Monterotondo because it links the dome to piazza dei Leoni. It has got a lot of shops: there is a fishmonger's, three coffee bars, two clothes' shops, two hairstylists', one butcher's, one news-stand's and one food market.

## **Il Giardino del Cigno**



In front of the Town Hall there is “Giardino del Cigno”: it is a round park, surrounded by high plants and bushes, with lots of beautiful flowers. In this park you can practice different activities, like running, walking along its paths, riding a bike, studying or just sitting in the sun. In the centre of the garden there is a fountain, called “Fontana del Cigno”, because it is characterized by a statue of a man with a swan pulling out water from its beak. In the garden there is also a monument in honour of the dead during the 1st World War.





bot. He is the protector of all animals. In the morning, people take

their horses in front of the cathedral. In the evening there is the

“torciata”, where people walk in Monterotondo with a torch, wearing a black and red cap. This celebration is called “la festa dei mulattieri”; the “torciata” lasts about two hours and it ends up in the new owner’s house who offers a little buffet to the participants and lets the door open to all faithful who want to visit the statue of St. Anthony.



We celebrate “Ciummacata” on the 24th

June: people meet in front of the cathedral and eat snails, the typical meal on this day. During the evening, they listen to music played by different bands, dance and have fun. At midnight they burn a witch, the symbol of the end of the winter and the coming of the summer.



Bruno Buozzi was born on 31st January 1881 and he was

murdered by German soldiers in Rome on the 4th June 1944. During fascism he had been elected Commissioner of the Industrial Trade Union. When Rome was occupied by the Nazi, Bruno Buozzi took refuge in some places, but finally he was surprised by the Germans. He was imprisoned and in June 1944 he was killed with other prisoners at “La Storta” near Rome. After his death a lot of roads, squares and schools have been named after Bruno Buozzi all over Italy.

## **RECIPES**





Ingredients:

- 1 kg flour;
- 33 cl white wine;
- 3 spoons salt;
- 3 spoons aniseed.

Procedure:

Heat the wine with the aniseed. Mix the ingredients until soft. Divide the mixture into nine parts, make ring-shaped rolls.



Ingredients:

- 2 eggs;
- 200 gr sugar;
- 1 glass white wine;
- baking powder;
- 1 lemon (grated peel);
- 400 gr flour;
- hazel-nuts.

Procedure:

Beat the eggs with the sugar until soft. Add the flour and the other ingredients and make thin rolls from the mixture. Bake them for about 20 minutes. Cut them into small pieces and bake them again for about 15 minutes. Place them on a grill and let them cool.

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**URL Sorgente (modified on 17/06/2014 - 23:12):**

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